

REMARKS

Claims 51-55 and 64-77 remain in this application. Claims 44-50, 56-60, and 61-63 have been cancelled without prejudice to their subsequent reinstatement. Claims 64-77 have been added. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. §121 - Election/Restriction

The Patent Office has issued a restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- a. Species I: Claims 44-50;
- b. Species II: Claims 51-55;
- c. Species III: Claims 56-60; and
- d. Species IV: Claims 61-63.

In response to the restriction, the Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute Species II (claims 51-55 and new claims 64-77) in this application. Applicant makes this election without prejudice to the right to prosecute the non-elected claims in one or more other patent applications.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Brent E. Vecchia at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

The Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Date: 10-10-05

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Brent E. Vecchia
Brent E. Vecchia
Reg. No. 48,011

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1030
(303) 740-1980